SECTIONONE Introduction

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Bradford Island Landfill is a former waste disposal site located at the Bonneville Lock and Dam Project near Cascade Locks, Oregon. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the owner of the Bradford Island Landfill, and is in the process of investigating the landfill. USACE is conducting the landfill investigation under the oversight of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), through the Voluntary Cleanup Program.

During hydrographic and underwater dive surveys conducted in October and November 2000, the USACE identified the presence of waste-related items, including electrical items that contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) submerged in the Columbia River adjacent to the Bradford Island Landfill. Some of the waste-related items were removed in December 2000. Analytical chemistry results from the sediment sampling conducted during the December 2000 recovery operations indicated the presence of PCBs. At the request of DEQ and United States Fish and Wildlife (USFW) (the "agencies"), USACE conducted an investigation of the river to help assess the extent and impacts of site-related contaminants. The scope of the investigation was based on the agencies' input and included sampling and analysis of water, sediment, and benthic aquatic specimens. The investigation also included simulation of impacts resulting from removal of wastes from the river. The findings of this investigation were presented in URS' In-Water Investigation Report, Bradford Island Landfill, dated March 2002.

Based on the In-Water Investigation Report, the experience gained during the partial removal of debris in December 2000, and the available work window to meet fish protection goals, USACE determined that the PCB-containing electrical equipment should be removed during the current in-water work period (November 15 to March 15) to protect human and ecological receptors. USACE contracted URS Corporation (URS) to observe, document, and monitor the removal under Contract DACW57-99-D-0005 Delivery Order No. 0008. This report summarizes the results of the removal activities completed between February 14 and March 4, 2002.

